



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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March 20, 2008

FB08-016

KING MACKEREL TRIP LIMIT DECREASED TO 500 POUNDS PER DAY FOR COMMERCIAL HOOK-AND-LINE VESSELS FISHING IN THE SOUTHERN FLORIDA WEST COAST SUBZONE

The daily vessel trip limit is reduced to 500 pounds beginning **12:01 a.m., local time, March 22, 2008**, for commercial hook-and-line vessels fishing for Gulf group king mackerel in the southern Florida west coast subzone. NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service is reducing the trip limit after determining 390,234 pounds (or 75 percent) of the 520,312-pound quota has been taken.

From November 1 through March 31, the southern subzone is that part of the Florida west coast subzone off Collier and Monroe Counties, Florida. This is the area south and west from 25° 20.4' N. lat. (a line directly east from the Miami-Dade/Monroe County, Florida boundary) to

26° 19.8' N. lat. (a line directly west from the Lee/Collier County, Florida, boundary). Beginning April 1, the southern subzone is reduced to the area off Collier County, Florida, between 25° 48' N. lat. and 26° 19.8' N. lat.

The 500-pound daily trip limit will remain in effect for the southern subzone until the 520,312-pound quota is reached or through the end of the fishing year, June 30, 2008, whichever occurs first.

Beginning April 1, the area off Monroe County is considered part of the Atlantic king mackerel fishery, and the trip limit will be 1,250 pounds.